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WILLYAM GODDARD

I have recently purchased for the Cornell University Library a copy of the 1602 black-letter edition of Chaucer, interesting as having formerly been in the library of the well-known Elizabethan poet and satirist Willyam Goddard. On the blank reverse of the portrait of Chaucer Goddard has inscribed a commendatory poem, and signed it boldly with his full name. This poem, though short, deserves to be preserved, both as the tribute of an Elizabethan man of letters to the great master, and as the only relic of Goddard (so far as I can discover) outside his three printed works. I have transcribed the poem with the original spelling and punctuation:

If thou yll-rellishe Chaucer for his ryme
 Consider when he liu'd, the age, and tyme
 And then thou't saie old Geffr'ye neatlie writt
 And showes both elloquence, and curious witt
 Noe age did ere afford a merryer vaine,
 Yet (diu'd into) a deepe and sollid straine

Willyam Goddard

The Romaunt of the Rose has been carefully analyzed with marginal notes as if Goddard intended to make some literary use of the poem; the rest of the volume, however, is free from annotation.

JOSEPH QUINCY ADAMS, JR.

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A MANUSCRIPT PERHAPS LOST

Last August there was printed in American newspapers a cablegram describing the destruction by fire of the municipal buildings at Lille. The despatch stated that a portion of the city library, housed in a wing of the building, was saved.

The future will tell whether or not there was included in that destruction a text of the *Danse Macabre* which was bound up with Colard Mansion's print of Gerson's *Dictes moraux des Philosophes*. The twenty leaves of the manuscript, forced into the same cover by the binder, carried two prose notes, a poem on death, in French, a copy of the *Visio Philiberti*, in French verse, and the *Danse Macabre*, this last in a form closer to Lydgate's English translation than are any of the Paris texts that I have seen.

When in France in 1913, I visited Lille, and after some difficulty obtained permission to transcribe the *Danse Macabre*. The copy then made will be printed with my forthcoming volume of fifteenth century English poems, and if the flames have swept away the volume of Gerson marked *Incunabula D ii* of the Lille library, then my transcription will be the only reminder of its former existence.

ELEANOR PRESCOTT HAMMOND.

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